

## Response to Comments Table Introduction

Introduction			
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Acknowledgements page	B.K. Richards	Spelling error: Frank “Mecham” not “Meacham”.	The spelling will be corrected in the next draft
1.1 Intro	HBA	Cite “development in inappropriate places instead of this blanket statement - “ <i>..., the county’s special character is vulnerable to development pressure that incrementally degrades special biological, geological, and other natural resources.</i> ”	The Introduction is not the place to be so specific. Policies and IS’s address this concern. <b>Revise:</b> “The county’s special character is vulnerable to development pressure that <u>can</u> incrementally degrades special biological, geological, and other natural resources.”
1.2 Intro	HBA	What fiscal analysis was done to support this statement - “ <i>Preserving and renewing natural resources will assure their greatest economic or social benefit over time.</i> ”	<i>Conserving</i> and renewing is the only way to assure that the resources will be available for future generations. <b>Revise:</b> “ <u>Conserving</u> <del>preserving</del> and renewing natural resources will assure their greatest economic or social benefit over time.”
1.4 History	North County Watch	Where is noise and odor addressed in the consolidated COSE? If these topics are not intended to be included in the COSE, where will they go?	Noise is addressed in the Noise Element. Odors are addressed in the APCD’s Clean Air Plan and in the Land Use Ordinance. These topics are normally not addressed in a Conservation and Open Space Element.
1.4 Element Preparation	HBA	The four workshops held on this element were not enough. Average citizens were not attracted to the workshops, just “the usual suspects”	Seven workshops were held for the general public. In addition, staff held workshops and gave presentations to many organizations and stakeholder groups. The Department received 415 pages of comments on the Public Review Draft, which reflects tremendous interest, especially for a policy document. Also, in addition to the standard distribution to agencies and interested organizations, the department developed a dedicated e-mail list of approximately 250 people interested in the COSE.
1.5 Element Preparation	B.K. Richards	Item 3): In some cases we should be eliminating policies and programs, not just adding or expanding them.	<b>Revise</b> 3): “Add to, <del>delete</del> or expand policies and programs in response to changing community needs and issues.”
1.5 Element Preparation	B.K Richards	It’s not clear why establishing the County as a leader is a good thing or important (or cost effective for government)? If we wish to be a leader, what is the peer group in which this should occur? The idea of being a leader occurs several times in the document, and the same observation would apply.	The COSE exhorts the County to be a leader in protecting air quality. Goal AQ 2 states that the County will be a leader in implementation of air quality initiatives, including GHG emissions and land use patterns. The leadership concept was included here due to public comments regarding the need for the County to “show the way” before requiring the private sector, through land use regulations, to implement air quality innovations.
Element Preparation	North County Watch	In 4) the County is expected to be a leader. This is ambiguous and should be clarified. For instance, does this mean the COSE has leverage over other elements? Or does this mean the county is competing for recognition statewide?	This is an introduction. For specifics, please refer to Goal AQ2, Goal E2 and their corresponding policies and IS’s. The COSE will have equal standing with other County General Plan elements.

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1.5 Element Prepara- tion	HBA	New policies regarding <i>“Integration with the Resource Management System (RMS) to direct growth away from areas with constrained natural resources”</i> should be accompanied by the opposite statement.	The policies and IS's are aimed at directing growth away from areas with resource constraints and to areas where resources are available. It's not necessary to be so specific in the Introduction.
1.9 Table COSE-1	B.K. Richards	It would seem that more strategic growth principles would affect the Energy Chapter than shown in the table.	Additional relationships will be shown in Table COSE-1:
1.9 Table COSE-1	North County Watch	Revise table to show a relationship between the strategic growth principles and the Energy Chapter.	Table COSE-1 will be revised to show the relationship between the principles and the Energy chapter.
1.9 Table COSE-1	Agriculture Department	The Agriculture Element should be added to the list of other General Plan elements that contain policies which address conservation topics.	This is shown in Table COSE-3 on page 1.20
1.10 Strategic Growth	B.K Richards	The four bullets are posed as “issues,” but described as “actions.” For example, “water conservation” is not an issue; it is just a topic.	<b>Revise</b> first paragraph and following bullets:“.....there are four essential priority <del>issues- actions</del> that require immediate <del>action</del> attention: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <del>Conserve</del> water countywide <del>conservation</del></li> <li>• <del>Reduce</del> Reduction in vehicle miles traveled</li> <li>• <del>Reduce</del> Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions</li> <li>• <del>Increased use of</del> energy efficiency and <u>use of</u> renewable energy sources”</li> </ul>
1.10 Strategic Growth	North County Watch	Add: “• Increase Open Space (land use category) inventory” as a priority issue	Increasing the inventory of land in the Open Space land use category is not recognized as an essential priority. Open Space as defined by the Government Code is a more appropriate description of a priority.
1.10 Strategic Growth	North County Watch	There is a disagreement between the four priority issues and the goals in Table COSE-2. Of the 48 goals in this table, one is a mandatory ‘shall,’ one is ‘maintain’ which is a status quo and the remaining 46 are ‘will.’ Goals associated with priority issues should be raised from ‘will’ to ‘shall.’ Bringing the priority issues and goals into agreement should be discussed as each chapter is reviewed.	The Introduction identifies four essential-priority actions regarding water conservation, reduction in greenhouse gases, reduction in VMT, and increased energy efficiency and use of renewable energy sources. The policies addressing these issues should be identified as essential priority policies.
1.10 Table COSE-2	B.K. Richards	The goal, “Adapt to climate change” seems vague. It is not clear that this should be in the domain of Air Quality. Sea level rise and weather extremes are more likely to affect water resources and Public Works.	Other jurisdictions use the language, “preparing for climate change.” Adapting to climate change is specific enough for a goal statement. The Air Quality chapter was determined to be the best location for the issue of climate change. Climate change is also addressed in the Water Resources chapter (see Policy WR 5.2 on page 10.23)
1.11 Table COSE-2	B.K Richards	Threatened, rare and endangered species are protected by state and federal law. Is BR 2 a statement that we'll uphold the state law, or are we adding something specific for the County? This same sort of construct occurs in other places in the document	Protection of rare, threatened and endangered species is a key element in biological resource conservation. The COSE includes the judicious use of citation of state or federal law when appropriate. In this example, an entire body of law applies to endangered species. Both the federal and state engendered species

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		(i.e. a goal or a policy to uphold the law). It's not clear that we have to recite these cases, since they are understood (and to be comprehensive, we'd have to fill the document with all of the references that apply).	acts contain detailed procedures and actions for local jurisdictions to follow. Instead of developing our own definitions and establishing our own species list, we use the federal and state procedures. The margins in the Biological Resources chapter explain threatened and endangered species and cite state and federal law.
<b>1.13 Air Quality</b>	B.K. Richards	As with many of the issues statements, this seems more of a general discussion than a focused piece on the issues. What are the barriers to solving the problems? We have a PM10 problem, we have an ozone problem, and we are required to do our share with respect to climate change GHGs. Isn't the problem with ozone that it's outside the county? We're being judged by this, but have very little leverage to solve it. Isn't limited data an issue? Limited authority? Another constraint is the land use policy will take a very long time to affect VMT? Also, federal mileage standards are a major driver and they, too, will take a very long time to have positive impact.	This issues section focuses on how we can most effectively meet the air quality challenges. The categories of issues include the effect of historical land use decisions, the need to show leadership in the field, proper application of existing law, effects of future development, and the need for a regional approach.
<b>Air Quality</b>	HBA	The statement, "Future growth can worsen the county's ozone and particulate matter problems," is a blanket indictment of all future growth. Revise: "...changing development standards to encourage future growth in and adjacent to urban areas can prevent the county air quality from worsening."	Disagree. The statement is that future growth <i>can</i> worsen air quality. The suggested statement is the next sentence in the paragraph and completes the thought.
<b>1.10-1.17 Key Issues</b>	North County Watch	The operative words in the overview are Improve, Identify and Protect; Conserve; Achieve; Protect; Manage and Restore irreplaceable resources. Therefore COSE goals should be strengthened correspondingly.	These operative words do appear in the policies and IS's. They are not used in the goal statements. The Planning Commission may wish to consider using these words in some of the goals, recognizing that the goals are intended to describe the desired future states.
<b>1.20 Building Blocks of the Plan</b>	B.K Richards	Because every organization has its own standard usage, definitions of "Goal," "Policy" and "Implementation Strategy" are needed up front in the Introduction.	These terms are fully defined on page 1.20. This section on how to read the Element is an appropriate place for these definitions.
<b>1.22 Implementation COSE-1</b>	North County Watch	North County Watch supports the reestablishment of the Conservation and Open Space Committee. North County Watch recommends the Revise: "... The intent of the Committee will be to facilitate implementation of the Element; <del>and to</del> coordinate with staff to prioritize implementation strategies; <del>and to</del> identify funding sources on an annual basis; <u>review policies and ordinances affecting the Element; increase public awareness of issues affecting open space resources including the</u>	The suggested language is generally appropriate. <b>Revise:</b> "... The <u>purpose</u> <del>intent</del> of the Committee <del>is will be</del> to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate implementation of the Element;</li> <li>• <del>and to</del> Coordinate with staff to prioritize implementation strategies;</li> <li>• <del>and to</del> Identify funding sources on an annual basis;</li> <li>• <u>Review policies and ordinances affecting the Element;</u></li> <li>• <u>Increase public awareness of issues</u></li> </ul>

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		<p><u>relationship between open space and agricultural issues; and in general provide a wider range of advice to the Board of Supervisors.</u> The committee shall convene <u>no less than</u> on a quarterly basis and include representatives as determined by the Board."</p>	<p><u>affecting open space resources, including the relationship between open space and agricultural issues;</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>and in general, Provide a wider range of advice to the Board of Supervisors."</u></li> </ul>
<b>1.23 Imple- menta- tion COSE-2</b>	North County Watch	<p>The average reader will not know that AB1600 is legislation that allows local jurisdictions to invoke development impact fees. This should be clarified.</p>	<p><b>Add</b> a sidebar to page 1.23 to state:  <u>"AB 1600 requires local jurisdictions to follow a specific process before adopting development impact fees."</u></p>